

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES
CITY OF MILPITAS
LIBRARY COMMISSION**

Minutes: Regular Meeting of Library Commission
Date of Meeting: Monday, May 17, 2004
Place of Meeting: Milpitas City Hall, 455. E. Calaveras Blvd., Committee Conference Room

A. Flag Salute Chairperson Hay led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Chairperson Hay called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Aoalin, Davis, Fan, Hay, Montano (7:15 p.m.),
Stephens and Alternate's Cascaro and Chou

Commissioners Absent: Wang

City Council Liaison Present: Vice-Mayor, Patricia Dixon

City Staff Present: Program Coordinator, Aaron Bueno, Public Services Clerk II,
Renee Lorentzen

County Staff Present: Community Librarian, Linda Arbaugh

Due to Commissioner Wang's absence and Commissioner Montano's tardiness,
Alternate's Cascaro and Chou were seated.

C. Approval of Minutes Commissioner Aoalin asked that the spelling of her last name be corrected throughout the minutes.

Chairperson Hay asked that her name and Commissioner Wang's name be added to the list of "Commissioner's Present". Chairperson Hay asked that under Item I. Adjournment, it read "... scheduled meeting on May 17, 2004 at 7:00 p.m."

Community Librarian Arbaugh stated that under Item G. Old Business, 1.3 Santa Clara County Library Tax Measure B, 1st Paragraph should read "County Librarian Melinda Cervantes..." Community Librarian Arbaugh asked that under H. Other Business. 1.2 County Librarian Report, the Alum Rock Library is shown to open in July 2005, not January 2005.

MOTION to approve the Minutes as Amended.
M/S: Davis/Stephens Ayes: All

D. Announcements/Correspondence

Chairperson Hay asked if any Commissioner had any reports from attended Library Workshops. Commissioner's reported that they had attended the Ethics Committee meetings with the City of Milpitas.

E. Citizen's Forum

Titus Cascaro
1360 Daniel Ct.
Milpitas, CA 95035

Mr. Cascaro read a personal letter addressed to Vice-Mayor Dixon, in regards to an incident between himself and the Milpitas Unified School District. Mr. Cascaro believes an unknown City Official is partly responsible for possible defamatory remarks against him, which lead to a potential car sales fund raising drive being cancelled. The letter asked that a formal investigation be held to research said incident.

Trini Aoalin
542 Hamilton Ave.
Milpitas, CA 95035

Ms. Aoalin invited to the Commission to the Fil-Am Festival on June 5, 2004 at the Milpitas Community Center from 2pm-7pm. This event is funded in part by a grant from the City of Milpitas.

F. Adoption of Agenda **MOTION** to adopt the Agenda of May 17, 2004.
M/S: Davis/Stephens Ayes: All

G. Old Business

1.1 Library Building Project

Mark Rogge, Principal Engineer, reported that plans for the library are moving along. The City advertised for RFP's (Request for Proposals), and received nine proposals from Bay Area architectural firms. The City will select the top three or four candidates and hold panel interviews with select City employees, commissioners and outside experts. Each candidate will have 20 minutes to make their presentation and answer formal questions from the panel. Principal Engineer, Rogge, informed the Commission that Chairperson Hay and Alternate Chou would be sitting on the interview panel.

1.2 LAC Meeting and Agenda and Minutes E-mail Distribution

The Commission stated that they liked the E-mail distribution of the Agenda and Minutes. Commissioners receive the information through e-mail earlier than they would through the U.S Mail.

H. Other Business

1.1 Recommendation from Facilities Naming Subcommittee; new Milpitas Library Project

Principal Planner, Mark Rogge, presented the Commission with a Memo from the Facilities Naming Subcommittee recommending that the new Milpitas Library be named the Milpitas Martin Luther King Jr. Library. The Memo suggests that the Library Commission, the Library Advisory Subcommittee and

City Council consider the naming of the Library with all meetings and discussions open to the public for debate, input and consideration.

Commissioner Davis stated that Martin Luther King Jr., although a great leader had nothing to do with Milpitas or California. The Library should be named after someone who had more of a direct impact on Milpitas or the state of California as a whole. Commissioner Chou stated that San Jose already has a Martin Luther King Jr. Library and this would become confusing for the community to have two in such close distance to each other.

Chairperson Hay stated that this is the first time that she or any person on the Commission has heard of a Facilities Naming Commission or the fact that the new library was being considered for naming. She said that the Library Commission's purpose is to advise on matters pertaining to the Milpitas Library and that the Commission should have been consulted on the naming of the Library, not informed as an after thought on an already existing recommendation. The public should have also been aware of such decisions as they are entitled to voice their opinion on their library. Chairperson Hay said that she is against naming the Milpitas Library after Martin Luther King Jr. due to the close proximity to the San Jose Martin Luther King Jr. Library and feels the Milpitas Library should be named the "Milpitas Memorial Library", with rooms in the facility to be named after people in history who have impacted the City of Milpitas in a positive way. Chairperson Hay asked the Commissioner's to go around the room and express their views on naming the Milpitas Library after Martin Luther King Jr.:

Commissioner Stephens: There is already a Martin Luther King Jr. Library in San Jose. Martin Luther King Jr. was a great man, so was Cesar Chavez, but naming the library after Martin Luther King Jr. does not fit with the community of Milpitas. Milpitas is so ethnically diverse, a name should be picked to represent as such.

Commissioner Cascaro: The Milpitas community is very unique and the name of the Library should reflect the diversity. The name Martin Luther King Jr. does not fit with Milpitas.

Commissioner Aotalin: The name of the Milpitas Library should reflect of the people who are in the Community and who will use the library.

Chairperson Hay: If the Milpitas Library is named after Martin Luther King Jr., it will be confusing for the surrounding communities. The Milpitas Library will be seen as an extension of San Jose, something that the citizens of Milpitas would not want.

Commissioner Fan: The process of the naming seems reversed; it should have come to the Commission first. The naming of the Library shouldn't be based necessarily on the ethnicities present but for someone who has contributed greatly to Milpitas.

Commissioner Montano: The motivation behind naming the Library for Martin Luther King Jr. was for his philosophies of peace, integration and community, not based on his race. The close proximity of the San Jose Library should be considered.

Commissioner Chou: The name of the Library should be generic so it represents all those who want to use the Milpitas Library. The public should be consulted

on what they want their library called. The Library is reserved for everyone who wants to use it. Simply calling it the “Milpitas Library” would invite all and represent all in the Milpitas Community.

Community Librarian Linda Arbaugh: Naming the Library the same as the San Jose Library would be too confusing for patrons, and would also allow for added confusion in the mail, book returns, etc.

Vice-Mayor apologized to the Commission for them not being informed earlier and suggested that when considering a name for the Library that it is taken in to account that by the time the Library is finished, the cultural demographics of Milpitas be different than they are now, so trying to pick a name based on current cultures and ethnicities would not be applicable at the time of Library completion and dedication.

MOTION to reject the Facilities Naming Subcommittee’s recommendation to name the new Milpitas Library after Martin Luther King Jr. and to re-form a separate naming committee for the new Milpitas Library that includes representatives from the Library Commission who will research and recommend a Milpitas Library name with community input.

M/S: Davis/Hay

Ayes: All

1.2 Work Plan Job Assignments

The Commission reviewed each Work Plan item and assigned Commissioner’s accordingly:

Objectives:

- a) Place suggestion boxes throughout high use areas to identify the needs of the community. Based on the suggestions received, the Commission will make recommendations to the Community Librarian. ***In Process***
- b) Participate in City-sponsored events with informational displays when appropriate and authorized by the City. Commissioners may staff displays. ***All Commissioners***
- c) Promote better appreciation of different cultures by addressing these particular needs for library services and participate at cultural events. ***Davis/Arbaugh***
- d) Participate as requested in the development of the new state-of-the-art library and make recommendations to the Library Subcommittee. ***In Process***
- e) Effectively communicate the role of the Library Advisory Commission as a forum for citizen input at locations such as Milpitas High School, Senior Center, and Terrace Gardens. The Commissioners will staff these forums. ***Montano***
- f) Encourage and promote attendance at Library Advisory Commission meetings through press releases in the Milpitas Post and announcements on the community cable channel. ***Davis***

Goal # 2 Promote library programs, book sales, and services to the community

Objectives:

- a) Supervisor for the electronic reader board messages. ***Davis***
- b) Provide information to the City’s cable station with event announcements. ***Davis/Staff***
- c) Send press releases to local media. ***Davis/Staff***

Goal #3 Raise awareness of Community concerns about the library

Objectives:

- a) Provide community input to the library staff. *All Commissioners*
- b) Review suggestions received from citizen forums and present to Community Librarian.
- c) Address concerns to the Library Subcommittee. *As needed*

Goal #4 Advocate legislation and funding that will help meet the needs of our community library

Objectives:

- a) Learn about legislation and lobby issues at the county, state, and national levels by attending appropriate conferences, like California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners, and Legislative Day. *In Process*
- b) Attend appropriate training and seminars with elected officials. *In Process*

1.3 4th of July Festival Participation

Program Coordinator, Aaron Bueno, informed the Commission that the 4th of July festival is hosting vendor booths only. The festival will consist of a pool party, Community Picnic and fireworks display. Staff suggested that the Commission attend the event, wearing their Commissioner nametags, so that people will recognize them and ask questions.

I. Other Business

1.1 Friends of the Milpitas Library

Commissioner Davis reported that the Semi-Annual Book sale was held on April 23rd -25th, selling \$5,575.97 in books. The mini sale in February generated \$838.50. The next sale will be Computer, Technology and Hardback Fiction books, on July 17th.

1.2 County Librarian Report

In Melinda Cervantes' absence, Community Librarian, Arbaugh told the Commission that the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year Budget was presented on April 22, 2004, with a 12% cut in programs and services.

1.3 Community Librarian Report

Three Senior Librarians will be retiring this year. Lighting in the Children's Reading Section has been improved creating a more enjoyable reading environment. Starting July 1st, Friday morning Story Time has been cancelled. In its place will be a new program, "Baby Lap-sit". Professional Storytellers, "Flying Calamari Brothers" will be performing on May 30th and 31st.

1.4 City Council Update

Vice-Mayor Dixon reported that the City is continuing to meet with County staff about concerns of closing the Milpitas Library in lieu of budget cuts. It is hoped that the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) will help to subsidize operating costs.

Commissioner Davis stated that if the Library does experience increased closure, the public would be affected, and therefore become more motivated to vote for Library Measures in the future.

1.5 City Staff Report

Program Coordinator Bueno, announced the following upcoming events:

- Summer Activity Guide is now available. Enrollment started on May 8, 2004, with over 4,000 people currently enrolled.
- Global Village was held May 1, 2004, with over 1,500 people in attendance.
- The Memorial Day Ceremony will be held on May 31, 2004, at 9am, at the Veterans Memorial Park.
- The 4th of July Festival will feature a Pool Party from 1-5pm, with Community Picnic at 6pm at the Milpitas Sports Center Football Field and ending with Fireworks at 9:30pm.

1.6 Future Agenda Items

- Work Plan Job Assignments
- 4th of July Celebration participation

I. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:13 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on July 19, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Milpitas City Hall Committee Conference Room.

M/S: Davis/Stephens

Ayes: All